

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-10, 12, 14, 15 and 17-22 are currently pending in the application. By this amendment, claims 1-3, 5-10, 12, 14, 15 and 17-22 are being canceled and new claims 24-43 are being added for the Examiner's consideration. Applicants respectfully submit that the new claims 24-43 are fully supported by the specification and allowable over the prior art of record.

In the Office Action dated March 10, 2008, claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (e), as being anticipated by HURREN et al., U.S. Patent 6,788,681. Claim 18 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over HURREN et al. in view of LAMBERTON (U.S. Patent No. 6,789,121). Claims 19-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over HURREN et al. in view of LAMBERTON in view of BLANCHET et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0013130). Claims 5 and 6, 12 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over HURREN in view of BLANCHET et al. Claims 7-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over HURREN et al. in view of BLANCHET et al. further in view of KHALI (U.S. Patent No. 7,110,375) and further in view of Mannam (U.S. Patent Publication 2004/0105459).

The pending claims 1-3, 5-10, 12, 14, 15 and 17-22 have all been rejected as being anticipated by HURREN et al. or unpatentable at least in part over HURREN. Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are neither anticipated nor unpatentable in view of HURREN et al. either alone or in combination with the secondary references, because HURREN et al. and the secondary references do not disclose certain features of the new claims 24-43.

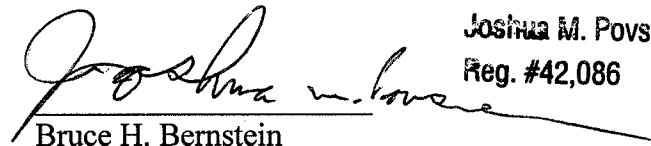
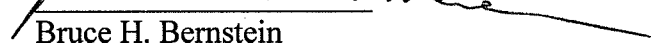
Applicants respectfully submit that HURREN et al. and the secondary references do not disclose, *inter alia*, a service provider network or method for assigning to each edge device of the service provider a unicast IPv6 address, from an IPv6 address block of the service provider, that corresponds to a particular local area network of the customer; and for assigning to each edge device of the service provider a virtual private network specific multicast IPv6 address, from the IPv6 address block of the service provider, which is used for multicasting packets to all of the edge devices of the service provider serving the virtual private network. Moreover, HURREN et al. and the secondary references do not disclose adding a virtual private network identification header to a header of the IPv6 packet in order to provide security for the virtual private network and to prevent unauthorized local area network frames from being delivered to virtual private network customers at the egress edge devices, the virtual private network identification header including a destination option, a virtual private network hop count and an identification number identifying the virtual private network of the customer. For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that new claims 24-43 are allowable.

In view of the herein contained amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request an indication of the allowability of all pending claims, in due course. Such action is respectfully requested and is believed to be appropriate and proper.

Should an extension of time be necessary to maintain the pendency of this application, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

If the Examiner has any questions or comments regarding this submission, or the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully Submitted,  
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June 5, 2008  
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